

I Am...

The Good Shepherd

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures:

“Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber”

John 10:1 (NIV)

³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.”

John 10:3-4 (NIV)

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. ¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:10-11 (NIV)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³ he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[a] I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalms 23 (NIV)

NOTE → this 30 minute lesson plan is written for all ages but the wording may need to be adjusted for your age group.

(5 minutes) **Start eating.** Pray over the food. Distribute/pass the food quickly so you can get started with your table talk time.

(10 minutes) **Start thinking & talking.** Ask a question to get your group thinking. You don’t need to ask all of the questions...just pick one that will get the group talking.

- Pastor Troy gave us four challenges of being a sheep. Fill in the blank...
 - Sheep get _____
 - Sheep are _____
 - Sheep are very _____
 - Sheep are _____
- Do any of these describe you? DISCUSS

(10 minutes) **Start sharing.** Choose a question to create openness.

- Pastor Troy gave us four incredible qualities of the Good Shepherd. Fill in the blank...
 - He _____
 - He _____
 - He _____
 - He _____
- Do you know the Psalm OR do you know the Shepherd?

(3 minutes) **Start praying.** Be bold and pray with power.

Jesus, I do believe that you are the Good Shepherd! Thank you for guiding me! I commit/recommit myself to You today. Thank You for giving me NEW LIFE! Now help me to be strong and courageous in these difficult times. I trust You! Thank You, Jesus, for your unlimited grace. In Jesus Name. Amen!

(2 minutes) **Start doing.** Commit to a step and live it out this week.

When you experience anxiety or come to a crossroads and need to make a decision, invite Jesus to be your Good Shepherd, to guide you.